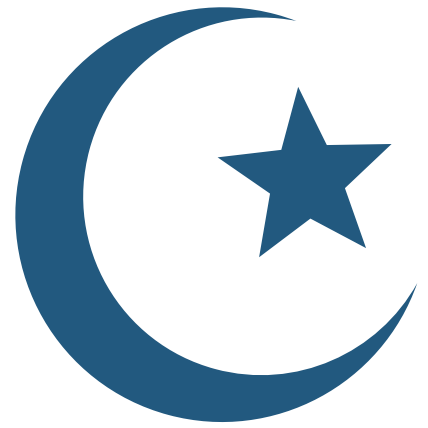


## *Teachings on Life: Islam*

Islam is a monotheistic, Abrahamic religion articulated by the Qur'an, a religious text considered by its adherents to be the verbatim word of God (Allah), and, for the vast majority of adherents, by the teachings and normative example of Muhammad, considered by most of them to be the last prophet of God. An adherent of Islam is called a Muslim.



I am a Muslim. I believe in one God, Allah, who is omnipotent.

A few of my foundational beliefs that shape my views on abortion:

The Koran is the Islamic holy book, the word of God as dictated by Archangel Gabriel to Muhammad. Our spirit (soul) is the source and the essence of life in living creatures. Islam teaches me that the soul is immortal and eternal. As a Muslim, I also believe in a final judgment based on our earthly deeds.

The Koran condemns the killing of most human beings. There are exceptions for self-defence and capital punishment), but it does not explicitly mention abortion.

Dr A. Majid Katme, director of the Muslim division of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children in the UK, has written the following:

“From conception through to natural death only Allah (God), the Creator of all, can create life or ordain that it be taken away. The moment of death has been fixed in advance by God Almighty. There is not a single statement in the Holy Book Al Qur'an or in the sayings (ahadith/sunnah) of the final Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), which allows abortion!

On the contrary, there are verses in the Holy Book Al Qur'an which are clearly against the killing of any unborn child or child, male or female, by any means, for any reason and at any stage of the pregnancy (Chapter 6, verse 151 / Chapter 17, verse 31 / Chapter 5, verse 31).